

**MRS. BELT DECLARES  
NAME WAS FORGED**

**Former Notary Public Says She  
Knows Nothing of Land-  
Trust Deal**

IN THE CITY AT THE TIME

Names of Mrs. Belt, Her Stenographer, Miss Quisenberry, and Another Unknown to Her, Used in Stenographic Practice

**MRS. HET DINKES**  
**SEATTLE LAND DEAL.**  
"Careful investigation of my notarial records shows I have never acknowledged deed for any property in the State of Washington for any of the parties mentioned in the Seattle, Wash., Dispatch, Editor's

In the foregoing Mrs. Mary E. Belt, of No. 128 Clara avenue, wife of Secretary Frederick Belt of the Millman's Association, the Commonwealth Trust Association, denies knowledge of alleged bribe about paid in Seattle. Mrs. Belt was until November 1, when the partnership was dissolved, a member of the notaries public firm of Belt & Whitcomb, in the Chemical building.

Mrs. Mary D. Whitcomb of No. 624 Laclede avenue, who conducts the business of the erstwhile firm, adds her denial to that of Mrs. Eck. The only Washington land transaction with which the firm has had anything to do, she claims, was last year for a land owner named Swan, but it was not Seattle land that was involved.

that the Real Estate Association there has undertaken the task of ferreting out the person or persons guilty of frauds, whereby \$10,000,000 worth of land in that city changed hands fraudulently.

This was accomplished through the famous lack of dealing in property owned by men living in other parts of the country. Description of the property were secured and bogus titles and deeds made out by one eminently gifted A. J. Ralph Norton, whom all probing thus far has failed to reveal.

**ST. LOUIS NAMES UREI.**

The name of William Tompkins of St. Louis has been used in these fake deals as having transferred a lot in "Norton

of the real hand owners who discovered he had been cheated, has written to Attorney William B. Tompkins, whose offices are at 285 Carlton building, and who lives at No. 582 Delmar avenue, informing him of the fact.

Seattle advices say thirty-nine alleged fraudulent transactions have been unscrupulous and that nine of them bore the name of Mrs. Belt as notary. Mrs. Belt was nearly prostrated when she heard of this. Her husband says it is his opinion that

The names of M. L. Adams and Miss E. Quisenberry "of St. Louis" are given as witnesses on some of the papers. Adams is unknown to the women, and Miss Quisenberry is known to them only as a

berry, Mrs. Whitcomb says, was temporarily a clerk in their offices last year. Her address is not known and her name does not appear in the St. Louis directory. It is understood she was furnished for temporary work by one of the typewriter agencies.

her health last year at the time most of the fake quitclaim deeds are dated. The Seattle dispatches say the men who operated there, and who were strangers in that city, made their sales all along the Pacific Coast cities, as far south as San Francisco.

It was during Mrs. Whitcomb's absence that Miss Quisenberry was in her office with Mrs. Belt.

**MAN FOSING AS NORTON**

Although the theory is that "A. J. R. in 'Norton'" is a myth, someone in the flesh claiming to be he appeared before Deputy Lulu R. Colvin, whose office is in the Terminal Hotel, on May 3, 1964, as a purchaser of two lots in Dane County, Wisconsin, from Mary C. Hall. The witnesses were Alice Brown and M. M. Murray.

Miss Colvin says she remembers little of the transaction, but her impression is that a woman representing herself as Mrs. Hall accompanied the party. Someone

"The State does not insist on Notarism

public keeping a record of transactions where the land involved is in another State, but, as it happened, I kept this particular record, although my memory of

"I was in the matter for a very slight time, it was the other fellow's fault and I was not even concerned as if I had to answer a question very second, and things came and went in my business without being mentally retained."

"Since last May, however, a whole year after the Norton party appeared before me, lawyers in Seattle have been besieging me with letters asking about the affair."

"I have not been able to answer them, because there was evidence of big frauds, and that they would like me to put them in possession of all the information I had. This did, but it amounted to no more than what I have just stated."

"It would have been possible for persons to have been given the names of names and land descriptions from my table, which is in the lobby of the hotel, at such times as they might have left it for a minute. Of course, I cannot say whether this was

## MARSHAL KILLED IN DUEL.

**WILL DOWDY SHOTS SAM ADAMS**  
**at Anniston, Mo.**

**WILL DOWDY SPECIAL**

Anniston, Mo., Nov. 12.—News was received at Cairo, Mo., this evening of a fatal pistol duel which occurred in Anniston, Mo., about twenty miles below here on the Cotton Belt Railroad, in which Tom Dowdy shot and killed Sam Adams, the Town Marshal.

It is said that Adams had been the victim of bitter feeling that had existed between them for several months. Last week Adams shot Dowdy while attempting to arrest him. The wound was not serious.

Adams was generated from all blame for the shooting. The two met on one of the principal streets. Both were armed with revolvers and each is said to have fired three shots. Both are badly wounded.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1039-1043.